

**ABSTRACT**

At least two sequences of predetermined reference times are established on respective ones of at least two communication lines. At least some of the reference times of at least one of the sequences occur out-of-phase with at least some of the reference times of another of the sequences. Digital data is encoded onto data signals on one or more communication lines such that a time difference between at least one of the data signals and the nearest one of the reference times on one of the communication lines is smaller than the time difference between the same data signal and the nearest one of the reference times on another one of the communication lines.